

The Institution of Engineers, Australia

Engineering Heritage Australia

National Engineering Oral History Program

INTERVIEW TAPE LOG

Interviewee: John Keith (Jack) Edwards

Tape Numbers: IEA.EHA: PM1

IEA.EHA: PM2

Interviewer: Peter MacFie

IEA.EHA: PM3

IEA.EHA: PM4

Number of tapes: 4

Place of Interview: Norwood, Tasmania

Date of Interview: 20 June 2002

Restrictions of use: None

Log prepared using: Lanier VW-110

Note : A complete transcript of this interview is also available

	Tape: IEA.EHA:PM 1, Side A	
Time	Subject	Proper Names/Keywords
00.00	Date and place of birth	Richmond Victoria
00.20	Early life	Essendon
00.50	Meeting early aviators	Kingsford Smith
01.00	Influences on career choice	Burke and Wills
01.30	Siblings	Jim Edwards
02.00	Brother's training as Civil Engineer	Working Men's College
02.20	Training	Melbourne Technical College
02.40	Education	Melbourne High School
03.50	Notable teacher	Bill Woodfull
06.10	Relationship to water and marine world	Sea Scouts
07.00	Engineering education	Fellowship Diploma
07.20	War service in engineering	Country Roads Board of Victoria
08.00	Air Force service	RAAF
09.00	Clearing up Flemington racecourse for Melbourne Cup	Melbourne Cup
10.25	Childhood flight over Melbourne	Tiger Moth flight
11.00	General view of life when starting out	
11.30	Effect of war on career	Airfield Construction
12.45	Career of brother Jim	Jim Edwards
12.50	Jim Edwards career with Haunstrop & Associates	Haunstrop & Associates
13.00	Jim Edwards at APPM	APPM
13.05	Jim Edwards at Comalco	Comalco
13.10	Jim Edwards at ANM	ANM
13.20	Working with brother professionally	Charles St bridges
13.25	Launceston Flood Protection Scheme	Tamar St bridge
14.00	Brother Jim Edward's war service in New Guinea	Number Five Airfield Construction Squadron
14.50	Brother Jim's return to civilian employment	Haunstrop & Associates
15.00	Own post war employment on bridge construction	Country Roads Board
17.20	First major concrete bridge construction	Hughes Creek
18.00	Timber bridge repairs	
18.30	Steel beams with timber decking	
19.00	Concrete flat slab bridge design	
20.00	Planning involved in bridge construction	
21.00	Availability of equipment post-war	
21.30	Vacation work in Victoria with packhorses	Kiewa Hydro Electric Scheme
22.00	The snake and the axes – incident in the bush	Mt Mackay

23:00	Bridge engineer with Roads Board	Ian O'Donnell
23:20	Senior people in Roads Board	Loader, Darwin
23:40	To Burnie Marine Board as Senior Assistant Engineer	Marine Board
24:00	Burnie expansion	Len Turnidge
26:00	Interest in harbour and bridge engineering	Sea Scouts
28:00	Reasons to rebuild Burnie harbour	Len Turnidge
28:30	Construction of hydraulic models	Wallingford
29:00	Comments on the port pilots	Port pilots
31:00	Life in Burnie with wife	Shirley Edwards
31:30	Friends in Burnie	Peter Stanhouse
32:00	Colleagues in Burnie	Bill Davis, Royce Neville
33:00	Social life in Burnie	Apex Club
34:00	Burnie workforce	Jock Cameron
35:00	Leadership training	Country Roads Board, RAAF
37:00	Skill levels in Burnie workforce	Workforce skills
38:00	Unions	AWU, Painters & Dockers
40:00	Dealing with the Marine Board in Burnie	Marine Board
	The Burnie Master Wardens	Mr Loan, Hugh Loan
	The Burnie community	Apex
	End Tape: IEA.EHA:PM 1, Side A	

	Tape: IEA.EHA:PM 1, Side B	
Time	Subject	Proper Names/Keywords
00.00	Move to Launceston	Launceston
00.10	Job description as engineer versus work superintendent	
01.00	Bill Hart as a mentor and boss	Bill Hart
01:30	Background of Comalco wharf at Bell Bay	Comalco, Bell Bay, Jim Edwards
02:00	Beauty Point wharf development for apples	Beauty Point, Inspection Head, apples
02:30	Tanker berth for Bell Bay	Tankers, Bell Bay
03:00	Construction in Launceston	Kings Wharf
04:00	Opening the Charles St Bridge	Eric Reece, Charles St bridge
05:00	Graving dock construction	Bill Hart
06:00	Flood protection scheme in Launceston	Tamar St bridge
07:00	Change to container traffic	Bell Bay, ANL
08:00	Bell Bay industrial development	BHP-Temco, thermal station
08:20	Power emergency of early 1960s	Sir Alan Knight, <i>Hinamoa</i>
08:40	Development of thermal power station	Thermal power station, Comalco
10:00	Gas to Tasmania	Duke Energy

11:30	Building the tanker jetty for thermal power station	
12:30	Building berth for APPM at Longreach	APPM, Longreach
10	Planning the Bell Bay wharf area	Jack Dineen, Bell Bay
11:00	The expanding size of ships	Comalco, Temco
12:40	Water depth in Tamar	Tamar
13:00	The development of the Tamar port Hunter scheme	Hunter scheme
13:30	Dredging the Tamar	Tamar
13:40	Obtaining the dredges	<i>Ponrabbel, Emden, Ponrabbel II</i>
14:00	Clearing the channel at George Town	George Town, Garrow Rock, Porpoise Rock
14:30	Removal of Garden Island by Roche Brothers	Garden Island, Roche Brothers
15:00	Development of ship repair business	
15:40	Development of ship lift at Kings Wharf	Kings Wharf, ship lift
16:00	Downsizing of outside work by Marine Board	BHP
17:00	Political games with Crown land at Bell Bay	Sir Raymond Ferrall, Sir Ian McLennan
17:50	Reaching agreement on land use at Bell Bay	Sir Robert Cosgrove, Essington-Lewis, BHP
18:00	Exchanges of letters as means of agreement	
19:00	Caring for the Tamar	Tamar, environment
20:00	People remembered	Sir Raymond Ferrall

20:30	The board	Cyril Carrington, John Hart, Bill Hart, Keith Meredith
21:00	Work Force in Launceston	
22:00	Training apprentices and using them later	Maunsell & Partners
23:00	Technical training courses	
23:30	Serving on board of Technical College	Technical College
24:00	Launceston Port cargoes	Launceston Port, Bell Bay
25:00	Flinders Island shipping to Bridport	Flinders Island, Bridport
26:00	Cessation of dredging in lower reaches	
26:30	Development of ferry terminal at Bell Bay	ANL
27:00	Consultant for ANL on roll-on/roll-off facilities	Adelaide, Geelong, Port Kembla, Sydney, Brisbane, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville, Cairns
27:30	The ferries in Bell Bay	<i>Bass Trader</i>
28:00	Opinions on passenger ferry move to Devonport	Devonport
	End Tape: IEA.EHA:PM 1, Side B	

Tape: IEA.EHA:PM 2, Side A		
Time	Subject	Proper Names/Keywords
00:00	Port Authority interest in local developments	Batman Bridge, Bell Bay railway, East Tamar Highway
01:00	Siting of Batman Bridge	Longreach, Whirlpool Reach,
02:30	Dangers if the lower bridge had been built	Maunsell & Partners
03:00	Input into Bell Bay railway planning	Bell Bay railway
03:40	Port Environment as environmental leader	
05:20	Financing the community built infrastructure for PR	
06:30	Development of flood protection system	Flood Protection Board, University of New South Wales, Professor Munro
09:00	Financing the flood protection system	Jimmy Tsingalou
10:00	Informal relationship with yacht clubs, rowing etc	
11:30	Economic basis of the Port Authority	
14:00	The move from Launceston to Bell Bay	Bell Bay, Launceston
15:00	Retiring from Port Authority	Retirement
15:20	Company Director	Sir Raymond Ferrall
15:40	Companies involved in	Launceston Gas Company, Launceston Bank for Savings
16:00	Educational involvement	Technical College Council, Tertiary Education Commission, Australian Maritime College
16:30	Involvement with Hydro-Electric Commission and the Gas industry	Hydro, Gas Corporation, Boral
18:00	Australian Maritime College beginnings and growth	Australian Maritime College, AMC Search Ltd.
21:00	The call centre industry	Tasmanian Development Authority
22:00	Promoting Tasmania	'Taste of Tasmania'
22:30	Banking involvement	Launceston Bank for Savings
23:00	Health issues from work load	
24:00	Tasmanian Development Authority	Sir Harold Cuthbertson, Charles Clements, Jim Rickard, Phillip Chandler
26:30	TDA relationship with government	Jim Bacon
End Tape: IEA.EHA:PM 2, Side A		

Tape: IEA.EHA:PM 2, Side B		
Time	Subject	Proper Names/Keywords

00:00	Association with Hydro	E-Z, Pasminco, Comalco, Temco
00:30	Green politics and the Hydro	
01:00	Dam building with Hydro	Henty-Anthony scheme, Pieman scheme
01:30	Sustainable energy and wind power	
03:00	The advantages of Basslink	Basslink
04:00	Integrated electrical system	
05:00	Increasing output from old technology	
06:00	The impact of Carbon Credits on power systems	Carbon Credits
07:00	Hydro meeting schedule	
07:30	Honorarium levels for directors	Tasmanian Development Authority, Launceston Bank for Savings
08:00	Community commitment	
09:00	Satisfaction from work creation	
10:00	Changing environmental practices	
12:00	Opinions on the Green Movement	Green Movement
12:30	Changing environmental practices in the Tamar	Tamar
14:00	Driving forces for sustainable development	
15:00	Aesthetic consideration in engineering works	
15:30	Director of Monds and Affleck	Monds & Affleck, HMA
16:00	Own consultancy business	
17:00	Philosophy of engineering in the past	
18:00	The days of building everything needed on site	Snowy Mountains Hydro electric Scheme, Burnie, Arthurs Lake
19:30	When the boss was the boss	Sir Allan Knight, Sir William Hudson, Bradfield of Sydney Harbour Bridge
20:00	The team ethic of engineering	
20:30	The satisfaction of training young engineers	
21:00	The importance of Public Relations	
22:00	The qualities required in Engineers	
	End Tape: IEA.EHA:PM 2, Side B	

	Tape: IEA.EHA:PM 3, Side A	
Time	Subject	Proper Names/Keywords
00:00	The basic nature of engineers	
01:00	On dealing with politics	Sir Raymond Ferrall
02:00	Importance of public relations	Sir William Hudson, Snowy Mountains Authority
03:00	Building community infrastructure as cheap PR	

04:00	On respecting the other person	Murray Heffernan, Trevallyn Power Scheme
04:30	Countering public criticism	
05:00	The PR involved at Garden Island removal	Garden Island, George Town
06:30	Identifying legitimate gripes	
07:00	Property acquisition without angst	Charlie Munden, Flood Protection Scheme
08:00	Providing the media with advance notice	
09:00	Union power	
10:00	The little touches that make a difference	Butlers Gorge
11:00	Delegation of responsibility to those on the job	
12:00	Importance of recognition of good performance	
12:40	People of importance in life	Len Turnidge, Bill Hart
13:00	The master mariners and pilots	
13:40	Great engineers	Allan Knight, Gordon Colebatch
14:00	Captain Williams of Australian National Line and his stories	Sir John Williams, <i>Niagara</i> , ANL
15:00	Contractors	Sir John Holland, John Holland Constructions, Warren McDonald, Jim Roche, Roche Brothers
16:00	Beginnings of Haunstrupp & Associates	Sven Haunstrupp, Haunstrupp & Associates, Jim Edwards
16:30	Union relations	Brian Harradine, Jack Nicholls, Painter and Dockers Union, Arnold Currie, Builders and Carpenters Union, Seamen's Union, Pat Gerrity
17:00	Professional contact in London	Port of London Authority, Wilson
18:00	Reports and diaries of trips for PLA board	
19:00	PR talks about overseas trips	Rotary, Lions
19:30	Other relationships	Sir Ian McLennan, Bill Sweetland, Jack Richards, Sir Eric Neil, Boral, Sir Geoffrey Foot
20:00	Political connections	Sir Geoffrey Foot, Ken Binns, Eric Reece, Robin Grey, Harry Holgate, Neil Batt, Roy Fagan, Bob Sharp
20:40	Diplomacy and getting approval	Allan Knight
21:00	On talking in simple terms to non-engineers	
22:00	Changing management styles	

23:00	The power of the handshake	Baltic Exchange
25:00	Friends that lasted	Alan Curry, Roche Brothers
26:00	Reunions	Sir Raymond Ferrall
	End Tape: IEA.EHA:PM 3, Side A	

	Tape: IEA.EHA:PM 3, Side B	
Time	Subject	Proper Names/Keywords
00:00	Polish involvement in Hydro	Colebatch, Knight, Guy Ward
01:00	Parents and their story	
02:00	Careers of sons and grandchildren	
03:00	Grandparents and their story	Burke and Wills
04:00	The skills of a good engineer, with improvisation	
04:40	Membership of Institution of Engineers	
05:00	Developing the design for bridges	Allan Knight, Lynchs Bridge, Maribyrnong River
08:00	Modification of bridge design after construction	Sir Allan Knight
09:00	The story of the Tamar and Charles St bridges	Tamar St Bridge, Charles St Bridge, Jim Edwards, Haunstrups
11:00	The re-development of aesthetics in engineering	Narrows bridge, Gladesville Bridge, Tasman Bridge
12:00	Historic bridges	Ross Bridge, Red bridge
16:00	Lower Reaches Channel Improvement	Low Head, Bell Bay, Hebe Reef Beacon, <i>Iron Baron</i>
16:40	The ship that sank in drydock	<i>King Islander</i>
18:00	The tug that sank	Captain Williams, Captain Fant
19:00	The sinking and raising of barges	
20:00	Oil spill in Tamar	Bombay Rock, Low Head
21:00	The ships rescued without sinking	<i>Hemiglypta</i> , Toroa patch, <i>Edgewater</i> , Garden Island, Windmill Point
22:00	The collapse of the Bell Bay wharf	Bell Bay
24:00	Recreational sites	Beauty Point marina, Tamar Yacht Club, Windermere Jetty, Rosevears
26:00	Low Head pilot facilities – design and construction	Low Head, Roche Brothers
	End Tape IEA.EHA:PM 3, Side B	

	Tape: IEA.EHA:PM 4, Side A	
Time	Subject	Proper Names/Keywords
00:00	Repair of the sunken <i>Straitsman</i>	<i>Straitsman</i> , Captain J. P. Williams, Painters and Dockers

		Union
02:00	Garden Island project	Garden Island, Bell Bay Comalco, Temco, George Town, Roche Brothers
03:00	Design of the Garden Island removal project	
04:00	Contract conditions on Garden Island	
06:00	The shock wave effect of Garden island blasting	
07:00	Growth of Bell Bay	Comalco, Temco
08:00	Water conditions in the Tamar	Tamar
10:00	Dredging the Tailrace for the Hydro at Trevallyn	Tailrace, Hydro, Trevallyn, Cataract Gorge
11:00	Fatalities on the river	
13:00	Awards and commendations	
14:00	Importance of good health to an engineer	
	End Tape: IEA.EHA:PM 4, Side A	
	End of interview	